

Application No. 10/626,989
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AUG 29 2007

CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method for producing a shaving aid cartridge, comprising the steps of:

forming in a first mold a base having a centrally located aperture sized to receive a razor cartridge and features for attaching the shaving aid cartridge to a razor assembly, the first mold including a base portion and a common portion;

engaging the common portion of the first mold with a shaving aid body portion to collectively form a closed second mold, the common portion containing the formed base; and forming in the second mold a shaving aid body attached to the formed base, wherein the base comprises a thermoplastic material, and wherein the shaving aid body comprises a soap material;

wherein the step of forming of the shaving aid body comprises the step of injecting the soap material in flowable form into the closed second mold.

2-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[5]] 1, wherein the formed base includes features for receiving the shaving aid material, and wherein when the shaving aid material solidifies, the features preventing separation of the shaving aid body and the formed base.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the features include at least one of apertures, protrusions and voids.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of forming the base comprises steps of:
mixing a thermoplastic material in a mixer at a first temperature; and
injecting the thermoplastic material into the first mold.

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9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of forming of the shaving aid body comprises the steps of:

mixing shaving aid raw material in a mixer at a temperature range to provide a flowable shaving aid material form; and

injecting the shaving aid material in the flowable form into the second mold.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of cooling the shaving aid mixer to maintain the flowable material within the temperature range.

11. (Currently amended) A method for producing a shaving aid cartridge, comprising the steps of:

injecting a thermoplastic material into a closed first mold to form a base, the base having a centrally located aperture sized to receive a razor cartridge and features for attaching the shaving aid cartridge to a razor assembly, the first mold including a base portion and a common portion;

moving the common portion of the first mold thereby engaging the common portion of the first mold with a shaving aid body portion to collectively form a closed second mold, wherein the base remains with the common portion and is disposed within the second mold;

injecting a shaving aid material comprising a soap material in flowable form into the second mold to form a shaving aid body attached to the formed base; and

removing the shaving aid cartridge that includes the base coupled to the shaving aid body from the second mold.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of cooling at least a portion of the shaving aid body portion of the second mold.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the at least a portion of the shaving aid body portion of the second mold is cooled to a temperature below a solidification temperature of the shaving aid material.

14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the common portion includes voids shaped to form features operable to attach the shaving aid cartridge to a razor assembly.

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15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the shaving aid material is processed into a flowable state using a screw type mixer.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein at least a portion of the screw type mixer is cooled during the processing of the shaving aid material.

17.-18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the shaving aid body portion comprises a first member providing a contour to the shaving aid body and a second centrally located member providing a central aperture to the shaving aid body.

20 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the first temperature is about 400°F.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the temperature range is between about 100°F to 115°F.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of heating passages that distribute the flowable shaving material to the closed second mold to maintain the flowable shaving aid material within the temperature range.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of cooling at least a portion of the shaving aid body portion of the second mold that provides a contour to the shaving aid body.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the shaving aid body portion comprises a first member providing a contour to the shaving aid body and a second centrally located member providing a central aperture to the shaving aid body.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising the step of cooling at least the first member of the shaving aid body portion.

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26. (Currently amended) A method for producing a shaving aid cartridge, comprising the steps of:

forming in a first mold a base having a centrally located aperture sized to receive a razor cartridge; and

forming in the second mold a shaving aid body attached to the formed base, wherein the base comprises a thermoplastic material, and

wherein the shaving aid body comprises a soap material;

wherein the step of forming of the shaving aid body comprises the step of injecting the soap material in flowable form into the second mold.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the first mold and the second mold are separate molds.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the shaving aid body comprises a forward portion and an aft portion, the forward portion and the aft portion being disposed on opposed sides of the centrally located aperture.